

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement interposed by the examiner, applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-13.

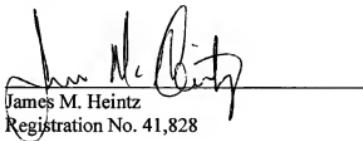
Applicants hereby traverse the restriction requirement for the following reason.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no undue burden on the Examiner. Section 803 of The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure states that “[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.” Applicants submit that there is no undue burden in this case and therefore respectfully request examination of all currently pending claims.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any suggestions to place the application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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